

Germany Says Sussex Was Not Torpedoed But Admits Sinking Other Steamers

German's Reply to Inquiry of United States Regarding Various Steamers Is Forwarded to Washington By Ambassador Gerard

DENIES THE SUSSEX WAS ATTACKED

Steamers Englishman and Eagle Point Sunk by German Submarines After Making Attempts to Escape from German Boats

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire] BERLIN, April 12.—Germany's reply to the inquiries of the American government regarding the steamers Sussex, Manchester, Englishman, Berwindale, and Eagle Point, signed by Gottlieb von Jagow, the German minister of foreign affairs, has been forwarded to Washington by Ambassador Gerard.

The note denies that the Sussex was attacked by a German submarine. The investigation covering the Sussex case, says the note, was extended to all actions, undertaken on March 24—the day of the Sussex incident—in the Channel between Folkestone and Dieppe. One steamer was sunk, the commander of the German submarine reaching the definite conclusion that it was a war vessel. A sketch of this vessel, together with photographic reproductions of a picture of the Sussex, printed in the London Daily Graphic, were enclosed with the note, the difference in the two craft being indicated.

The steamers Englishman and Eagle Point were sunk by German submarines after they had attempted to escape and time was allowed for the withdrawal of those aboard.

The steamer Berwindale was possibly sunk by a German submarine, which definite details with respect to the Manchester Engineer are lacking and therefore there has been no sufficient basis for investigation of this particular case.

The following is the text of the German note on the Sussex, dated April 12. The undersigned has the honor to inform your excellency, Ambassador Gerard, in response to communications of the 29th and 30th ultimo and the

(Continued on Page Two)

FRAGMENTS OF METAL FOUND ON SUSSEX ARE COMING

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire] PARIS, April 12.—Fragments of the missile which damaged the cross channel steamer Sussex, which have been handed the American naval attaché will be forwarded to Washington in a pouch leaving France next Saturday. The pouch will not reach Washington before April 22.

A report indicating the character of the fragments already has been cabled to the state department, but the actual evidence furnished by the actual fragments is considered of such importance that they are being forwarded to the United States.

The American embassy is guarding the fragments from inspection, but it is understood that several of the pieces are not merely shattered bits of metal but bear certain inscriptions which it is believed constitute damaging evidence of the character of the missile and where it originated.

GERMAN ADMISSIONS SIMPLIFY MATTERS

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

WASHINGTON, April 12.—Admission by Germany that her submarines recently attacked three merchant ships carrying American citizens and that one of them torpedoed a vessel in the vicinity of the point where the steamer Sussex was damaged by an explosion, has simplified the task of the state department in preparing for the next step of the United States in the issue over submarine warfare.

Following the receipt in cabled press dispatches of the latest German note, it became known that the United States would continue to compile information, indicating that German submarines are operating in violation of the rules of international law and that very soon a communication, designed to be the final word of the American government on the subject would be forwarded to Berlin.

The state department virtually has completed the collection of facts relating to all attacks on merchant ships since the Lusitania. Further evidence

in the case of the Sussex, forwarded by the American embassies at London and Paris, is to arrive on the liner St. Paul Friday. It is understood that instructions to Ambassador Gerard, accompanied by the information gathered by the department, will go forward soon thereafter.

The unofficial text of the note from Germany was communicated to President Wilson and Secretary Lansing tonight. The official text was expected hourly. It will be considered by the cabinet at its regular meeting on Friday.

Officials made it clear tonight that whatever might be the form of the instructions to Ambassador Gerard, the purpose of the document to be handed the German government would be to give notice that the United States considers it has a great array of evidence tending to prove that in spite of repeated assurances and pledges given by Germany's peaceful merchant ships, carrying American citizens, or which might have some aboard, continue to be the victims of illegal attacks.

POWDER FOR WAR FERTILIZER IN TIME OF PEACE

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

WASHINGTON, April 12.—Favorable action by the senate on the proposal to construct a huge hydro-electric air nitrogen plant for the manufacture of powder in war times and fertilizer in peace, was forecast today when a motion by Senator Hardwick to strike out the fertilizer feature of the pending amendment to the army bill was defeated 47 to 24.

The amendment introduced by Senator Smith of South Carolina, was under discussion all day. It provides for a plant with an ultimate cost of \$15,000,000, the surplus nitric acid over what may be needed for powder to go into fertilizer to be sold directly to the farmers by the secretary of agriculture.

Senator Hardwick declared the plan socialist and repugnant to the spirit of democracy. Senator Sutherland questioned the constitutionality of the fertilizer proposal, although he said there can be no question as to the government's power to manufacture chemicals for its own military needs.

Senator Hardwick's motion was defeated by the votes of 28 democrats and nine republicans, the latter being Senators Chappin, Cummins, Gronna, Kenyon, La Follette, McCumber, Norris, Poindexter and Sherman. The democrats who voted for it were Senator Hardwick, Overman, Tomceron, Smith of Georgia, and Stone.

With the Hardwick proposal out of the way, Senator Underwood proposed to add a paragraph to the Smith amendment authorizing the secretary of war to purchase or lease rights to the most suitable process for the production of air nitrogen and also to lease the proposed plant, should he so desire, for private manufacture of fertilizer in peace times.

The Underwood amendment was still

(Continued on Page Five)

PLANTERS PUT SISAL GROWERS OUT OF BUSINESS

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

WASHINGTON, April 12.—The day in congress:

The Senate

The senate met at noon and resumed the debate on the army reorganization bill.

The sisal investigation continued. Senator Weeks' amendment to increase the tariff on lemons and other citrus fruits to 1 cent a pound was voted down, 44 to 29.

The sugar tariff bill passed in the senate last night by a vote of 40 to 22, went to a conference of the two houses today.

With the sugar tariff bill temporarily disposed of, the senate resumed debate on the army reorganization bill.

The rivers and harbors appropriation bill, carrying \$49,999,999, passed by the house last night by a vote of 216 to 123, went to the senate today.

The senate passed Senator Pittman's bill providing that agricultural lands owned within the military reservation in Nevada, which have been under control of the secretary of the interior, be disposed of only under homestead and desert land laws.

Senators Ashurst and Smith of Arizona criticized the recent refusal of Secretary Baker to issue rifles belonging to the war department to an organized rifle club at Bisbee. Senator Ashurst said the refusal was contrary to law, and Senator Smith declared there had been discrimination against citizens of his state.

Adopted Senator Lodge's resolution asking Secretary Daniels for copies of correspondence between him and the navy general board, which he re-

(Continued on Page Three)

MAKE BOMBS TO DESTROY SHIPS OF THE ALLIES

This is the Charge Lodged Against Four Men Under Arrest in New York Following Lengthy Investigation

RAMIFICATIONS ARE WIDESPREAD

Three Suspects Are Employes of German Steamship Line—Other Arrests Will Follow As Soon As Culprits Are Located

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

NEW YORK, April 12.—Four men charged with complicity in manufacturing "firebombs" which were placed aboard ships carrying munitions and supplies to the entente allies were arrested here tonight by agents of the department of justice acting in concert with the New York police. Three of the suspects are employes of German steamship lines. They are accused of having been involved with others not yet in custody of fomenting a plot, widespread in its ramifications for the destruction of merchantmen. The men under arrest are:

Ernest Becker, 32; born in Germany; electrician on the steamer Kaiser Friedrich Der Grosse, said by the police to have confessed to manufacturing hundreds of bomb caps.

Captain Charles von Kleist, 57 years old, born in Germany, superintendent of the New Jersey Agricultural and Chemical company of Hoboken, N. J., who has confessed. It is asserted that "firebombs" were loaded in his company's place of business.

Captain Otto Wolpert, 44 years old, superintendent of the Atlas Line piers of the Hamburg-American Line, who is accused of having received the completed bombs.

Captain Enno Bode, 40 years old, superintendent of the Hamburg-American Line piers in Hoboken, who, the police say, has admitted acting as the agent of Captain Franz von Papen, former military attaché at the German embassy, in visits to the plant of the New Jersey Agricultural and Chemical company, and charged with assisting in the distribution of the bombs.

Von Kleist, who claims to be a brother-in-law of General von Briesen of the German army, who was killed in battle in December, 1914, was the first to be placed under arrest. He is said to have been instrumental in bringing to police headquarters the men accused of being co-conspirators with him. "We have incited the hands of men who are responsible for the fire and explosions on steamships, especially sugar-carrying ships, both at piers and at sea," declared Captain Tanney of the "bomb squad," in telling of the seizure at the chemical company plant of 200 bombs of the type said to have been used in the attempted destruction of vessels.

The arrests are the result of an investigation which has been conducted by federal and city authorities since last June, when the French government complained to the state department that bombs had been found in sugar bags aboard the steamship Kirk Oswald.

One of these bombs was sent to Washington from Paris and Becker, according to the police admitted tonight that it was one of those made by him. Becker, the police say, has confessed that his bomb factory was located on the steamship Kaiser Friedrich der

(Continued on Page Five)

WILL DECLARE FOR ROOSEVELT

NEW YORK, April 12.—The New York Tribune, for scores of years a leading republican journal, will declare editorially tomorrow for the nomination of Theodore Roosevelt for the presidency by the republican convention.

UNLESS VILLA PURSUIT ENDS SHORTLY MORE TROOPS MUST BE SENT TO GEN. PERSHING

Broncho Yaqui Indians Are Defeated By De Facto Troops

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

DOUGLAS, Ariz., April 12.—A large force of Broncho Yaqui Indians was decisively defeated Tuesday by de facto government troops under General Rafael Estrada, according to a brief message received today by Elias Calles, military governor of Sonora, from General Estrada. The message said the fight occurred at Agua Calientes, twelve miles east of the Tonichi branch of the Southern Pacific railroad of Mexico, and lasted several hours.

General Estrada's plan of campaign, as stated by General Calles, is to drive the Yaquis eastward out of the Yaqui River valley. Agua Calientes was fortified by the Indians, and is reported to have been amply provisioned to withstand a siege. It is said

by Americans well acquainted with that section of Sonora to be the last stronghold of the tribe. General Calles expects to remain in Agua Prieta about a week, but it was stated at his headquarters this afternoon that he will probably not go to the Chihuahua border. He intends as nearly as can be learned, to return to Hermosillo from Agua Prieta.

General Arnulfo Gomez is personally in Agua Prieta, hurrying the forwarding of supplies to his column at Colonia Morelos, sixty-five miles southeast of here, with which he intends to enter Chihuahua through Puerto Pass. The start was to have been made today, but was delayed on account of the failure of supplies to arrive at the main camp.

VILLISTAS, THOUSAND STRONG, SACK TOWN AND DESTROY MUCH VALUABLE AMERICAN PROPERTY

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

EL PASO, Texas, April 12.—A large band of Villistas, numbering several hundred and possibly a thousand, have sacked Sierra Mojada, five miles across the Colorado line and eighty miles east of Jimenez, destroying many thousands of dollars of American property and looting the town of everything of value.

This news, which may prove to be of the highest importance as it is believed possible Villa himself was among the raiders, was received here today by the representative of one of the largest American mining concerns in Mexico and is accepted by him as absolutely authentic. The bandits made their attack on the town on April fifth. They came from Escudon, a junction point on the Mexican National railroad, sixty miles southeast of Jimenez and about an equal distance southwest of Sierra Mojada, with which it is connected by the Mexican Northern railroad. On their way to Sierra Mojada they sacked the small town of Corralito.

The belief that Villa himself may be directing the operations of the bandits is supported by a report received today from Ojinaga stating that colonel Biola, the commander there, had information that Villa had doubled in his tracks and was 200 miles southwest of that town. Ojinaga is directly across the border from Presidio, Texas and about 150 miles north of Sierra Mojada.

Another circumstance that gives color to this location of the bandit chief is the fact that Canuto Reyes, at the head of a large number of men, was reported from Torreon a week ago to be traveling north in the direction of Sierra Mojada. It was the belief at the time in Torreon that Villa's notorious ally was on his way to join the brigand-in-chief.

If it proves true that Villa has completely hoodwinked the American troops who have been driving south at an amazing speed and are today reported from the most reliable sources to be well south of Parral and very close to the Durango border.

Sierra Mojada is 140 miles east of the nearest point at which American troops are known to be. It is on the eastern side of a vast desert, known as the Bolson de Mapimi and south of another dreary, waterless waste called Bolson de Los Lipanes. Its only connection with the west is by the Mexican Northern railroad along which the Villistas advanced, burning bridges, destroying telegraph lines and tearing up the tracks as far as they were able.

Little evidence is given reports here from Ojinaga that Villa plans to turn north and attempt a raid on presidio. It is believed far more probable that the bandit, if he is at Sierra Mojada, has chosen that desolate and almost inaccessible spot for the concentrating of his forces and those of Canuto Reyes with the intention of sweeping down in force

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General Funston Likely to Ask War Department to Move to Border 4000 Troops Now Stationed Elsewhere in U. S.

MILITIA MAY BE CALLED INSTEAD

If War Department Regards Transfer Inexpedient, the State Troops May Be Asked to Protect the International Line

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

SAN ANTONIO, April 12.—Unless the work of the punitive expedition in Mexico is accomplished within a very few days, means will be sought to strengthen General Pershing's forces at the front. It was authoritatively stated tonight. It is expected that General Funston will ask the war department to move into the southern department the 4000 troops that are stationed at other points in the United States. If this is done, these will be placed on duty along the border, and patrol duty on the frontier. If the war department regards the transfer of troops not now in the department as inexpedient, it is believed that General Funston will recommend using the militia to relieve the troops along the border.

Whether the somewhat vague understanding entered into between American officers and Carranza authorities for the movement of supplies consigned as ordinary freight, is a success which is considered doubtful in some quarters but by headquarters officials it was deemed worthy of trial.

If higher officials in Mexico do not interfere with the arrangement, it was recognized that it will go far towards alleviating a situation that quartermasters officials had regarded as rapidly becoming acute, but since the request for the use of the railroads was asked the military situation has so changed, military men declare that even greater use of the railroads must be had if the campaign against the bandit chief and his thousands of followers is carried to a logical finish.

Reports reached General Funston from El Paso late today that a train of supplies left Juarez for Chihuahua this afternoon under the new arrangement.

General Funston continued without information today as to the location of the advanced cavalry detachments and no reports supplied additional information concerning the whereabouts of Villa or the state of his efforts.

(Continued on Page Three)

on Torreon after the American troops are withdrawn from Mexico. Numerous reports from Mexican sources agree that Villa is convinced the soldiers of the United States will soon be recalled and that he will be then able to rally all the anti-Carranzista factions in northern Mexico to his standard.

Americans Slain In Bandit Raids On West Coast Six Prisoners At Calumbus Took Part In Villa Raid

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

SAN DIEGO, Cal., April 12.—Several Americans have been killed or wounded in bandit raids in the vicinity of Guaymas, Sonora, according to a naval radio message received here today. The message was forwarded to the navy department at Washington and resulted in an order to the Cruiser Denver, now at San Blas, state of tepic, to steam to the Sonora seaport and investigate.

The message gave no details of the reported raids and made no mention of the time they were committed.

The supply steamer Glacier, now at Mazatlan, Mex., is expected to arrive here early next week with a number of refugees, who are reported to have fled from the interior of Sinaloa because of unsettled conditions.

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

COLUMBUS, N. M. April 12.—The six Villista prisoners brought to the border last night under heavy guard have been identified positively by soldiers and townspeople as having participated in the raid on Columbus, March 9. Major W. R. Sample, commandant of the base, announced tonight.

It was determined also that one of the prisoners, who had claimed to be a Carranzista soldier captured by Villa, was a member of Villa's band when it raided Columbus, having deserted the de facto troops.

It was announced the men will be held here pending an investigation as to the legal steps to be taken in prosecuting them.

Incident weather conditions hampered wireless communication with the front today, but military authorities here expressed no concern, and asserted that General Pershing probably is pushing his campaign rapidly further into the interior of Mexico, and that it is possible that some of the troops are operating on the Durango border.

Military men of rank here say freely they believe the conclusion of the campaign is yet months away. Few of them take stock in the possibility of the expeditionary force being withdrawn. Much interest, however, is manifested in the proposals to increase the force, it being pointed out that the line of communication now is more than four hundred miles long.

Prosperity In United States Greater Than Ever Before

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

WASHINGTON, April 12.—Financial prosperity and strength is greater in the United States today than ever before and is rising rapidly to new levels, according to the interpretation placed by the comptroller of the currency on figures made public today showing conditions March 7, the date of the last bank call in the country's national banks. Here is what the returns show:

Total resources of national banks \$13,538,999,999, an increase of \$2,271,900,000 or twenty per cent within a year.

Total deposits \$10,079,999,999, an increase of \$2,158,000,000, or nearly twenty-five per cent within a year and an increase of \$411,000,000 since December 31 last.

An increase of \$950,000,000 in loans and discounts within a year.

Surplus and undivided profits of \$1,021,278,999, an increase of \$18,000,000.

The increase in resources within the past twelve months alone, Comptroller Williams pointed out in a statement tonight exceeds the entire resources of the Reichsbank of Germany, and the aggregate resources of American national banks exceeded by \$3,000,000 the aggregate resources of the Bank of England, the Bank of France, the Bank of Russia, the Reichsbank of Germany, the Bank of the Netherlands, the Swiss National Bank and the Bank of Japan.

As recently as 1896, the statement

says, the entire amount on deposit in bank loans within the United States was less than the increase in deposits within the past twelve months.

Total reserves held by national banks March 7 were \$2,287,000,000. This is \$993,000,000 more than the law requires and is more than \$100,000,000 in excess of the greatest surplus reserve ever held before.

"It is conservatively estimated," reads the comptroller's statement, "that the surplus reserve now held by the national banks would be sufficient to give a further loaning power of \$3,000,000,000 to \$4,000,000,000 should the growth and development of commerce, agriculture or industry call for huge enlargements of credit."

"Notwithstanding the Anglo-French loan of \$500,000,000 and the loans made to other foreign powers, amounting to several hundred million dollars additional which our banks to a greater or less degree have participated, there are no indications of unsound inflation or excessive loans, and the national banks of the country have never been in a stronger position than they are at this time."

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Roosevelt To Get At Least Two Illinois Votes in June

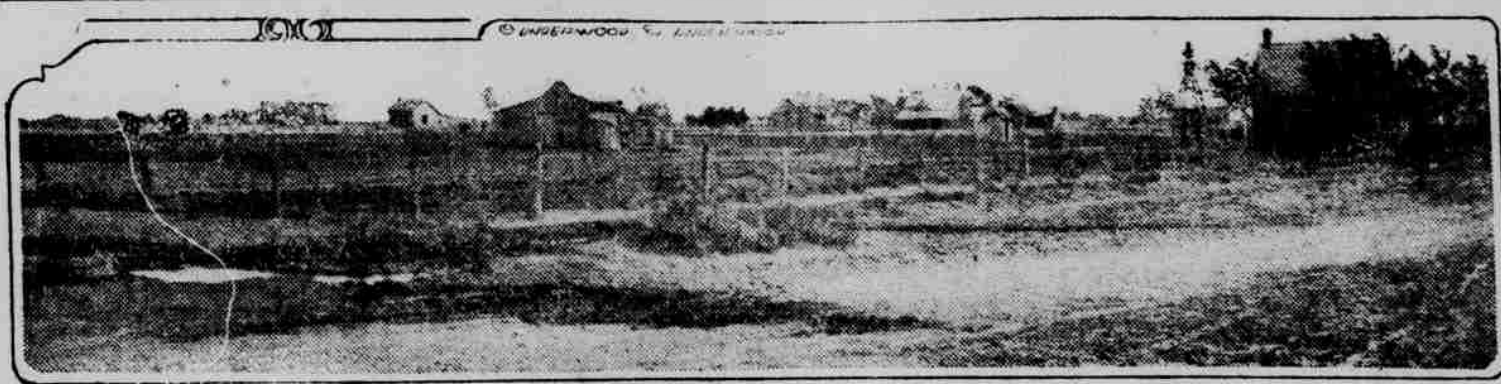
[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

CHICAGO, April 12.—Theodore Roosevelt will get at least two votes from Illinois in the republican national convention as a result of yesterday's primary election. City Treasurer Charles H. Sergel, in the second, and City Clerk John Siman, in the sixth district, broke the slate which provided for a solid delegation with 58 votes for Senator L. V. Sherman for president. They were elected as district delegates and will vote for Colonel Roosevelt.

With 832 precincts missing, Medill McCormack leads the eight republican delegates-at-large, while Mayor W. H. Thompson of Chicago is last on the list. John M. Harlan, the only Roosevelt candidate for delegate-at-large, was defeated.

On the democratic side Roger C. Sullivan claims 45 of the 58 delegates to the St. Louis convention.

MORMON VILLAGE IN MEXICO IS LIKE UP-TO-DATE COMMUNITY IN UNITED STATES



General view of the Mormon town of Colonia Dublan, near Casas Grandes, Mexico.

Colonia Dublan, the Mormon settlement in northern Mexico which was marked for massacre by Bandit Villa but saved by Pershing's men, resembles an up-to-date rural district in the United States. It is like an oasis in the dreary Mexican desert. The settlement is near the field headquarters of the expeditionary force under General Pershing.